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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/915,659	08/21/1997	TIMOTHY J. O'BRIEN	D6020	1804

27851 7590 12/16/2003

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EXAMINER

BUGAISKY, GABRIELE E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1653

DATE MAILED: 12/16/2003

26

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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26

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Commissioner for Patents

All claims are allowable. However, due to a potential interference, ex parte prosecution remains **SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS** from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Gabriele E. Bugaisky, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (703) 308-4201. The Examiner can normally be reached from 8:15 AM to 2:00 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays and from 8:15 AM to 1:30 PM on Wednesdays and Fridays.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Christopher S. F. Low, can be reached at (703) 308-2923.

Papers related to this application may be submitted by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Technology Center 1600 via the PTO Fax Center located in Crystal Mall 1. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The Fax Center number is (703) 308-4242.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

**BRUCE KISLIUK, DIRECTOR
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600**

**Gabriele E. BUGAISKY
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1653**